



Director of
Intelligence

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National Intelligence Daily

*Thursday
31 May 1979*

State Dept. review completed

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Contents

25X1

Overnight Reports	18
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The Overnight Reports, printed on yellow paper as the final section of the *Daily*, will often contain materials that update the Situation Reports and Briefs and Comments.

Approved For Release 2004/07/08 : CIA-RDP79T00975A031400260001-4

25X1

Approved For Release 2004/07/08 : CIA-RDP79T00975A031400260001-4

Next 22 Page(s) In Document Exempt

Approved For Release 2004/07/08 : CIA-RDP79T00975A031400260001-4

25X1



OVERNIGHT REPORTS

(The items in the Overnight Reports section have not been coordinated within the intelligence community. They are prepared overnight by the Office of Current Operations with analyst comment where possible from the production offices of NFAC.)

Dominica

The US Embassy in Bridgetown, Barbados, reported yesterday that the situation in Dominica had stabilized temporarily as the political opposition and five major unions decided on strategy to oust Prime Minister Patrick John. The Embassy believes that John cannot survive long given the seriousness of the crisis precipitated by his ramrodding of anti-strike legislation through the Assembly and the subsequent violent popular reaction. Although communications with Dominica were spotty, the Embassy had a report that the island was quiet but tense, and that there were no indications that US citizens were in danger. [redacted]

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Libya-US

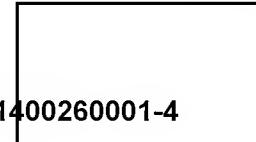
Commenting on the suspension of delivery of three 747 aircraft to Libya, the editor of JANA, the Libyan news agency, was quoted last night as stating that the US Government is overlooking the fact that it is normal to buy and sell aircraft and that states can buy whatever civil aircraft they require. The editor remarked that Libya's policy is "based on the principle of: We befriend whoever befriends us and we are hostile to anyone who is hostile to us." [redacted]

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Nepal

King Birendra yesterday appointed Surya Bahadur Thapa as Prime Minister in accordance with a unanimous recommendation from the Rashtriya Panchayat--Nepal's indirectly elected legislative body. Birendra had promised to accept the recommendation of the Panchayat in selecting a new prime minister, a move toward liberalizing his regime and ending several weeks of anti-government demonstrations. Thapa was in numerous governments in the 1960s and prime minister from 1967 to 1969. While an apparent strong believer in the necessity for a monarchy in Nepal, he has also been a longtime advocate of government liberalization and of a conciliatory policy by the King toward his political opponents.

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Israel-Syria

The UN Security Council last night voted 14-0 to extend the term of the UN Disengagement Observer Force on the Golan Heights for another six months, until 30 November 1979.

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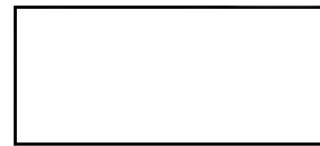
Czechoslovakia

Playwright Vaclav Havel was among some 10 Czech dissidents arrested yesterday, according to Western news reports. Others detained included spokesmen for the Charter 77 human rights movement, and members of the "Committee for the Defense of Unjustified Persecutees."

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Kenya-Tanzania

A three-hour meeting between Kenyan President Moi and Tanzanian President Nyerere yesterday opened prospects for improved relations between the two countries, according to a Western press service. Relations had soured in 1977 after the East African Community, linking the two countries with Uganda, had foundered. The Kenyan Foreign Minister said yesterday that the two countries had agreed to resume using each other's airspace, although no agreement was reached on the opening of their land frontier. The two presidents reportedly agreed to assist in the reconstruction of Uganda. [REDACTED]

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Zambia

According to press reports, President Kaunda has stated that Zambia would resume preparing a court case which will allege that the British Petroleum oil company failed to honor the UN boycott against oil shipments to Rhodesia. Zambia originally instituted legal action for damages totaling \$6.9 billion against British Petroleum and four other firms in 1977, charging them with denying oil to Zambia during the 1960s in order to build up Rhodesian stocks. In his statement Kaunda said he had expected British Petroleum to offer compensation, particularly after publication of a British Government report last fall outlining the oil firm's dealings with Rhodesia. [REDACTED]

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